

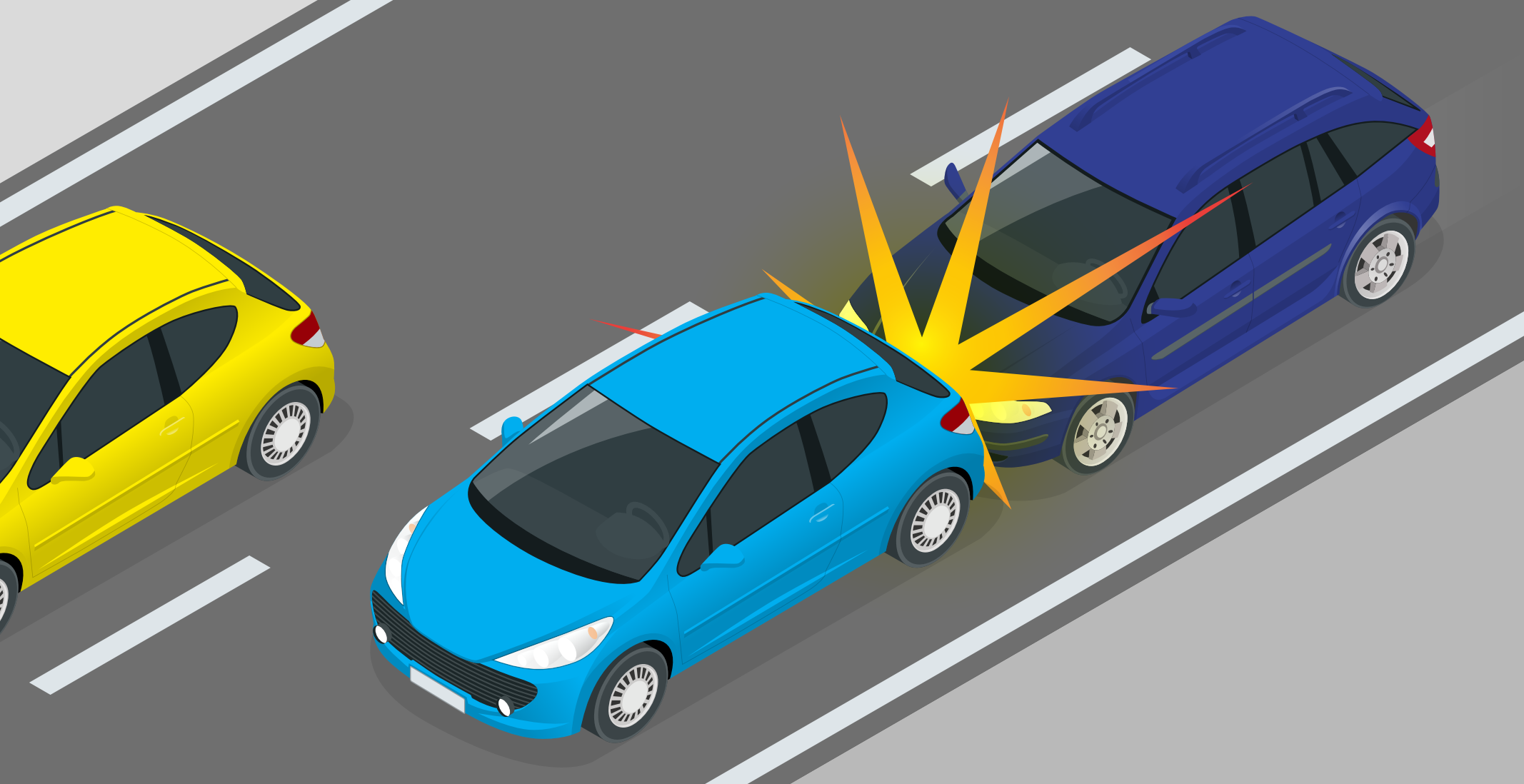
Tread Depth

- ✓ The legal minimum tread depth for UK cars is **1.6mm** across the central three quarters of the tyre.



- ✓ New tyres have a **8mm** tread depth
- ✓ As the tread decreases, the wear and stopping distance of the tyre will increase
- ✓ Although 1.6mm is the legal minimum, it is recommended that you change your tyres well in advance of them reaching this. Ideally, they would need to be **replaced at 3mm to ensure safety and performance on the roads**

Stopping Distance



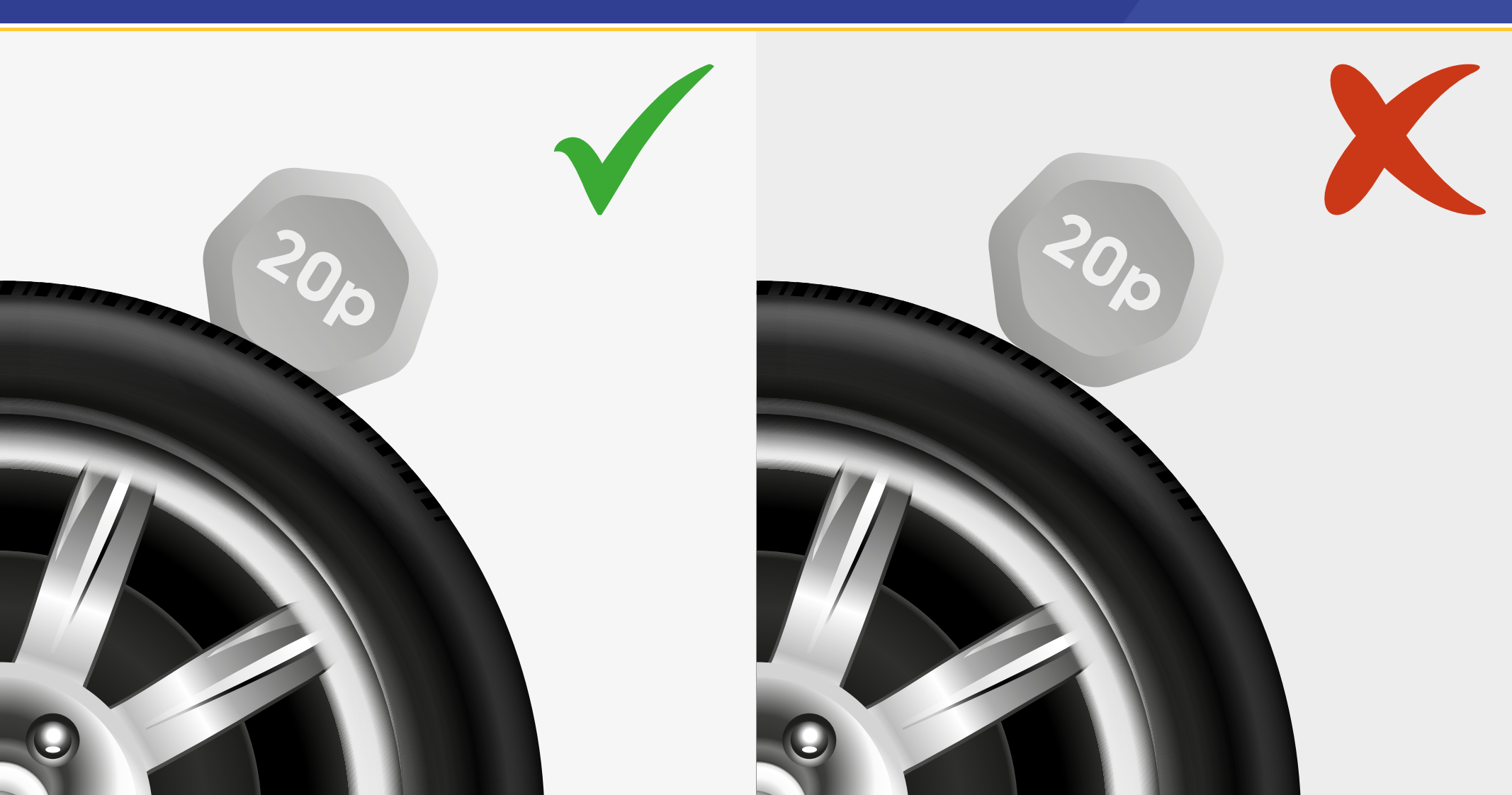
- ✓ The stopping distance of a car increases significantly when your tyre **tread depth is below 1.6mm**
- ✓ This increases the chance of **skidding, slipping and losing control on the road**
- ✓ The stopping distance of a car is further increased when tyres with reduced tread come into **contact with wet roads**; this affects the safety of drivers and passengers of the car and others around it
- ✓ Drivers should bear this in mind when driving in wet conditions and **lower their speed accordingly**

Legal Consequences of Incorrect Tyre Tread

If caught driving with a tyre(s) under the legal minimum tread, you risk a fine of up to **£2,500 and three penalty points** on your licence per each illegal tyre.

How to Check Tread Depth

The 20p Test



- ✓ **The outer rim of a 20p coin measures exactly 1.6mm**, making it the perfect tool to check whether your tyre tread exceeds the legal minimum depth
- ✓ For the 20p test, place the coin into the main tread grooves of your tyre; the outer rim should slot into the tread, but if **the rim remains visible then your tyres are deemed illegal** and unsafe to drive on the roads
- ✓ You should carry out the **20p test at three separate points** around the tyre for consistency
- ✓ If your tyre tread is found to be below 1.6mm, you must **contact an expert immediately** who will be able to replace the tyre and get you back on the road as quickly as possible

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